

Special Benefits to Off-Site Areas. No significant benefits would accrue to off-site areas as a result of wilderness designation of the WSA.

Diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Ecosystem Diversity. The BLM has classified its WSAs according to criteria of the Bailey-Kuchler Ecosystems of the United States system used by the Forest Service in its RARE II studies. The Bailey-Kuchler Great Basin Province-Desert Ecosystem (3130-39) is the only ecosystem represented in the Shoshone WSA. Table F-6 summarizes the potential wilderness acres nationwide and statewide that represent this ecosystem.

Only the Craters of the Moon Wilderness (43,243 acres) in Idaho represents the Great Basin Province-Desert Ecosystem in the National Wilderness Preservation System. There are no areas endorsed by the President and pending before Congress that represent the 3130-39 ecosystem. However, there are ten other BLM wilderness study areas in Idaho that have representation of the ecosystem.

Solitude and Primitive Recreation Opportunities. Two metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) that qualify as major population centers, the Boise and the Salt Lake City-Ogden areas, are within five hours driving time of the WSA. Table F-5 summarizes the opportunities available from each MSA.

Geographic Distribution. In the region surrounding Idaho, the existing NWPS areas are concentrated in the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range in California, the Cascade Mountain Range in Oregon and Washington, and in the Rocky Mountains of Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and Colorado. There are very few wilderness areas in Nevada, Utah, southeast Oregon, and southern Idaho.

Manageability

This WSA can be effectively managed to preserve all wilderness values over a long-term period. None of the WSA is located in a grazing allotment so nonconforming uses are not a problem.

Although there are no State inholdings inside the WSA, one State land section (T. 5 S., R. 17 E., Section 16) juts into the WSA's northern boundary. This creates a boundary on legal subdivisions that is hard to recognize on the ground. Exchanging for this State section would enable the boundary of the area to be moved back to the lava's edge. Such a move would create a boundary that is well delineated on the ground.

TABLE F.7

WILDERNESS QUALITY STANDARD SUMMARY

Wilderness Study Area	Quality Standard		
	Energy and Mineral Resource Values	Impacts on Other Resources	Impacts of Nondesignation on Wilderness Values
Shale Butte (57-2)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and for uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. Low favorability for accumulation of low to intermediate geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Some vehicle use on ways for livestock management would continue. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p> <p><u>Vegetation:</u> Frequency of fire in the WSA would be reduced. Plant communities would more closely represent the potential vegetation for the Sagebrush-Steppe type.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that, over the long term, ORV use would increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA.</p> <p><u>Vegetation:</u> Fire would continue to burn through the WSA at a high frequency creating conditions that are unfavorable for vegetation that is representative of the potential natural vegetation for this area.</p>
Sand Butte (57-8)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and for uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. Low favorability for accumulation of low to intermediate geothermal resources. Low to moderate favorability for high temperature geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that, over the long term, ORV use would increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> One well and eight miles of road for water hauling could be constructed in the WSA. This would adversely affect naturalness on 36 acres and solitude on 5,091 acres.</p>
Raven's Eye (57-10)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and for uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. The northern portion of the WSA has moderate favorability for low, moderate, and high temperature geothermal resources. The southern portion of the WSA has low favorability for accumulation of intermediate geothermal resources and low to moderate favorability for high temperature geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Some vehicle use on ways for livestock management would continue. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that in 45 percent of the unit, over the long term, ORV use would increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA. The remaining 55 percent of the WSA is not accessible to ORVs.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> Three miles of road could be constructed for water hauling. This would adversely affect naturalness on 14 acres and solitude on 1,910 acres.</p>

Quality Standard (Cont.)		
Public Comment	Local Social And Economic Effects	Consistency With Other Plans
<p>Comments on this WSA both support and oppose wilderness designation. Supporting comments emphasize high quality wilderness values and unusual geological formations.</p> <p>Opposing comments emphasize conflicts with livestock operations and ORV use, and low quality of wilderness characteristics.</p>	<p>There are no significant social or economic effects from either wilderness designation or nondesignation.</p>	<p>Wilderness designation does not conflict with any Federal, State, or local land resource plans.</p>
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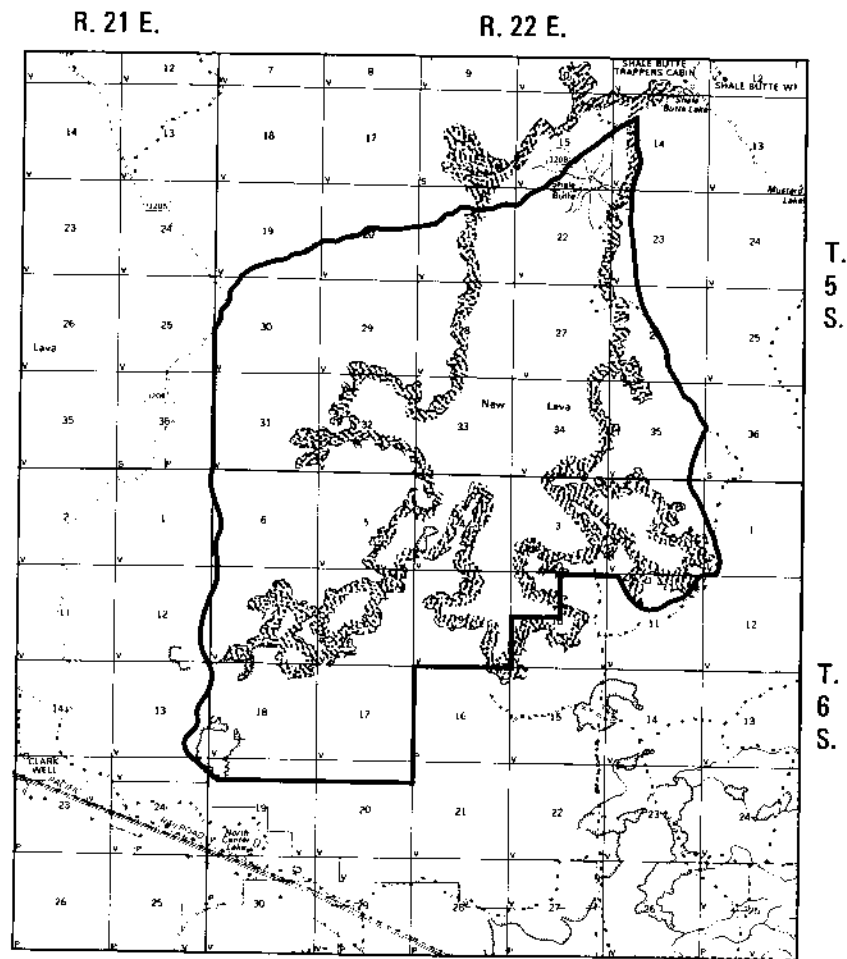
TABLE F-7 (Cont.)

WILDERNESS QUALITY STANDARD SUMMARY

Wilderness Study Area	Energy and Mineral Resource Values	Quality Standard	
		Impacts on Other Resources	Impacts of Nondesignation on Wilderness Values
Little Deer (57-11)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. The northern portion of the WSA has moderate favorability for low, moderate, and high temperature geothermal resources. The southern portion of the WSA has low favorability for accumulation of intermediate geothermal resources and low to moderate favorability for high temperature geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Some vehicle use on ways for live-stock management would continue. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that in 38 percent of the unit, over the long term, ORV use could increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA. The remaining 62 percent of the WSA is not accessible to ORVs.</p>
Bear Den Butte (57-14)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and for uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. Low favorability for accumulation of low to intermediate geothermal resources. Low to moderate favorability for accumulation of high temperature geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that in 56 percent of the unit, over the long term, ORV use could increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA. The remaining 44 percent of the WSA is not accessible to ORVs.</p>
Shoshone (59-7)	<p><u>Locatable Minerals:</u> Unfavorable for metallic mineral resources and for uranium and thorium. Moderately favorable for uncommon varieties of stone (decorative lava rock). Unfavorable for other non-metallic minerals.</p> <p><u>Leasable Resources:</u> Low favorability for accumulation of hydrocarbon resources. Low to moderate favorability for accumulation of low to intermediate geothermal resources. Low to moderate favorability for accumulation of high temperature geothermal resources. Unfavorable for asphalt, bitumen, and phosphate.</p> <p><u>Saleable Minerals:</u> Highly favorable for stone, cinders, pumice, and pumicite. Not favorable for clay, limestone, dolomite, peat, petrified wood, sand, and gravel.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> After designation, only claims with valid existing rights could be developed.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Area would be closed to recreational ORV use. Recreational ORV use is currently low in the area.</p> <p><u>Livestock:</u> No change in availability of area for livestock operations.</p>	<p><u>Minerals:</u> Discovered mineral resources could be developed in a manner that would impair wilderness values.</p> <p><u>ORV Use:</u> Increasing trends for the region indicate that in 5 percent of the unit, over the long term, ORV use could increase to a level that would adversely affect wilderness values of solitude and naturalness in the WSA. The remaining 95 percent of the WSA is not accessible to ORVs.</p>

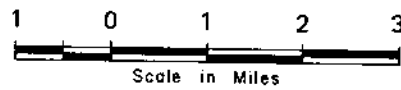
Quality Standard (Cont.)		
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MAP F-1

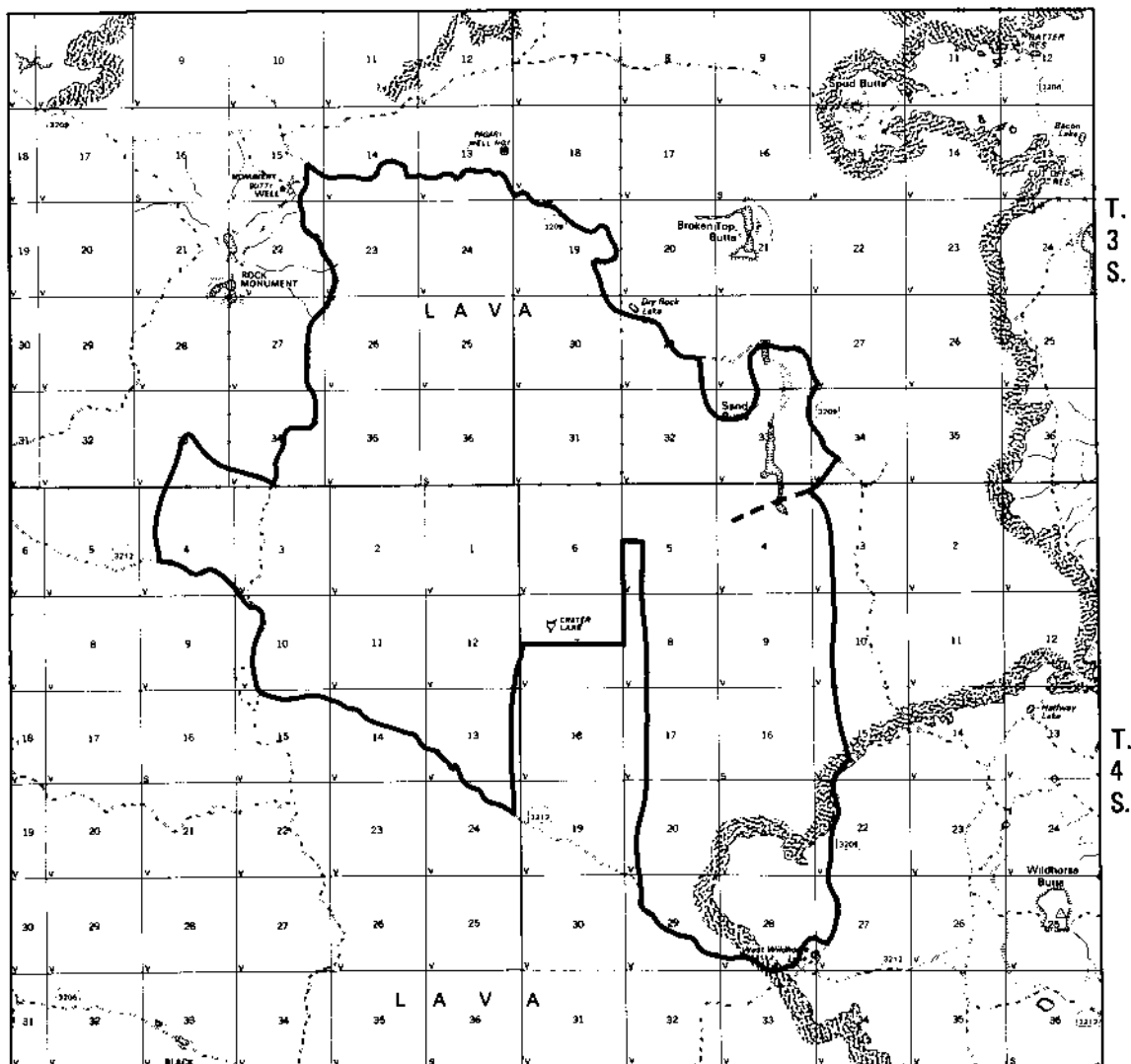


SHALE BUTTE
WSA 57-2

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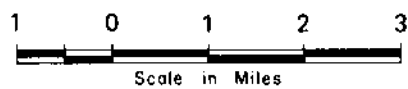


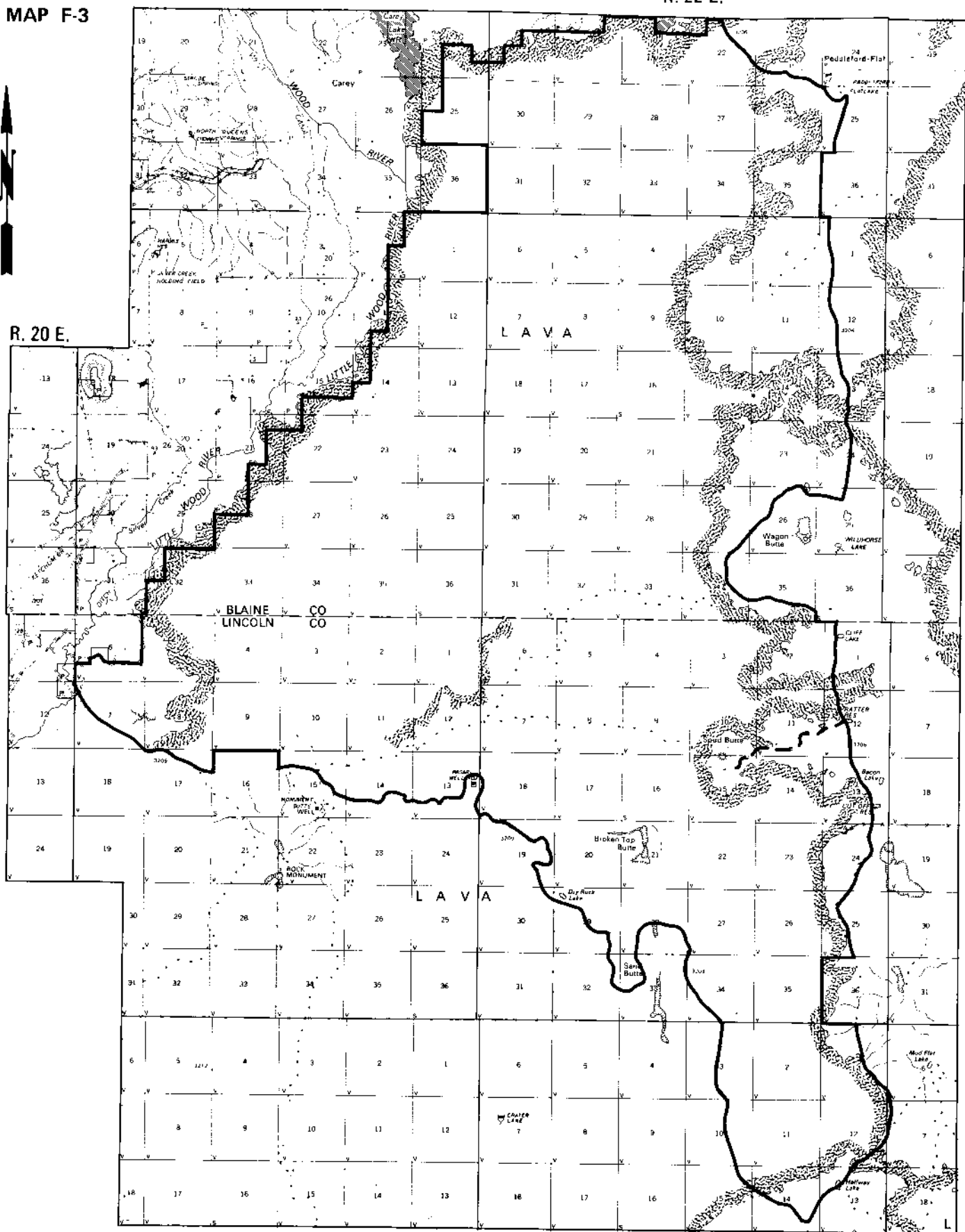
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SAND BUTTE
WSA 57-8

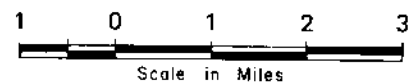
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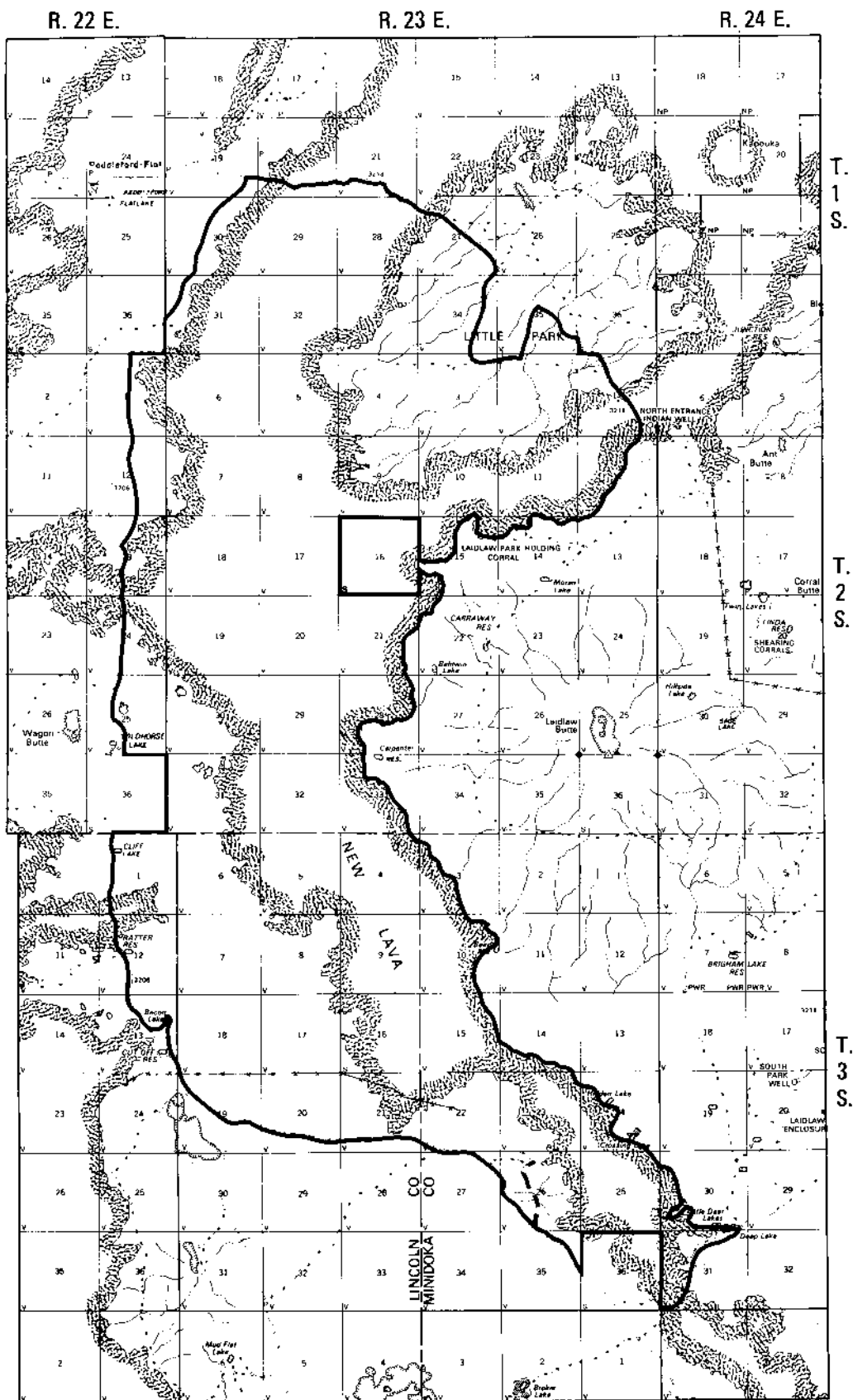




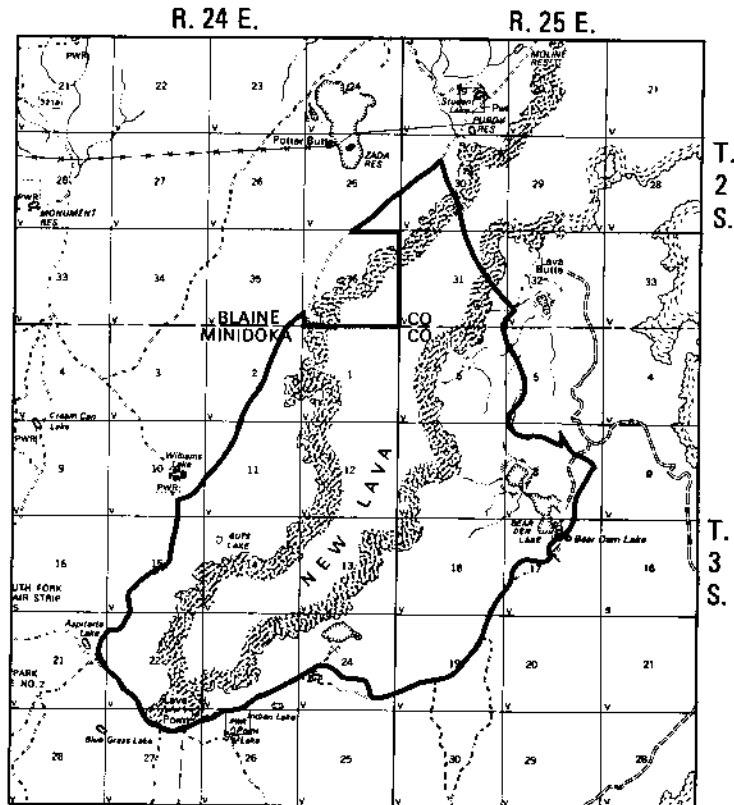
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RAVEN'S EYE
 WSA 57-10





MAP F-5



BEAR DEN BUTTE WSA 57-14

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